

**From:** [Marylou Soscia](#)  
**To:** [Soscia, Marylou](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Comment: Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group:  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 25, 2017 11:18:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [graycol.gif](#)  
[pic07023.gif](#)  
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----- Forwarded by Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US on 04/25/2017 11:18 AM -----

From: MaryLou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US  
To: Joseph F Rinella <jrinella@usgs.gov>,  
Cc: cox.michael@epa.gov  
Date: 02/11/2008 09:57 AM  
Subject: Re: Comment: Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group:  
Sent by: Marylou Soscia

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Joe:

Thanks for sharing this information on goals and goal setting, that is definitely our long term plan and we want to have measurable and accountable goals.

I believe that kind of goal setting is a larger work effort than we have capacity for at this time. Our current goal setting process is to help with a vision for the State of the River report so we can set get the resources and support to set those kind of goals.

Thanks so much for your hard work and contribution to our work effort on the Columbia River.

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02/11/2008 09:04 AM

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cc  
Subject

Comment: Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group:

Michael and others,

I was reading a business paper this weekend and ran across an article regarding "goals," which we discussed at last week's working group meeting. The quote from the paper was "...I learned that for goal-setting to be worthwhile, a goal must meet certain criteria. The goal must be achievable, it must be time limited, and it must be measurable." If we really want our goals to be worthwhile, we are facing some difficulties. Without having the baseline data first, the progress in achieving our goals can not be measured (this was discussed at our meeting). Without the baseline, we also can not apply a meaningful timeframe, and we will not know if our goals are achievable. We need to obtain baseline data on toxics, both spatially and temporally, in order to develop meaningful goals. If we decide to key in on certain areas (for example, removal of contaminants from the Bonneville Dam area, where the problem has been quantified by the COE), we can be successful in establishing meaningful goals. If we say that PBDE loads to the basin will be reduced by 10 percent by 2011, we will not know if we are successful because we don't know the current loading. If we have a goal to ban the use of a toxic compound by a certain date, however, we can be successful. Just thinking out loud on this one.

Regards,

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